The Director of Central Intelligence

Approved For Release 2004/03/15: CIA-RDP80M00165A001800070012-6

21-10113/A

18. November 1977

The Honorable Charles H. Percy United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chuck,

Thanks so much for sending me the copy of your statement on the Helms case. I'm most grateful, also, for the way in which that statement helps to clear the air. It is certainly right on from my point of view. I am blessed by having the Select Committee on Intelligence to prevent my being placed in the kind of position that Dick Helms was.

Looking forward to a tennis game soon. In the meantime, thanks again.

Yours

STANSFIELD TURNER

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RICHARD A. WERMAN CHIEF COUNSEL AND STAFF DIRECTOR

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS WASHINGTON, D.C. 26510

November 4, 1977

SERV. PERCY'S STATEMENT RE HELMS CASE.

Honorable Stansfield Turner Director Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D.C.

Dear Admiral Turner:

I wanted you to see my statement on the Helms case. A copy

is enclosed.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Percy United States Senator

CHP:scp

Enclosure

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1977

CONTACT: JOHN WALKER

(202) 224-7925

STATEMENT BY SENATOR CHARLES H. PERCY
ON "NO-CONTEST" PLEA OF MR. RICHARD HELMS

ASHINGTON--- New Senate rules and procedures governing information

exchanged between the Senate and members of the intelligence community diminish

the likelihood of a recurrence of the circumstances that led to the "no-contest"

plea in Federal Court yesterday by Mr. Richard Helms, former Director of Central

Intelligence:

With the creation of the Select Committee on Intelligence in 1976, the Senate established detailed procedures for dealing with information and data that pertains to the national security. As a result of extensive hearings and consultations, the rules and procedures of this committee were formed to avoid many abuses of the past and provide more comprehensive rules for consideration of intelligence information.

At the time of Mr. Helms' contested testimony in February and March, 1973, these rules and procedures did not exist.

Therefore, I do not believe we will again see the circumstances that led Mr. Helms to believe that he had to make a choice between his commitment to the national security and his legal responsibility to fully respond to an official Congressional inquiry.

(Senator Percy served on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee's Subcommittee on Maditinational Corporations from its inception in 1972, and as the Subcommittee's Ranking Minority Member from January, 1976, to December, 1976, when the Subcommittee was abolished.)

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